

Listing of Claims:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A vehicle (2), comprising:having
a side sill arrangement (8);
a B-pillar (10) extending into the;a side-sill arrangement (8);~~into which the B-~~
~~pillar (10) extends; and~~
a transverse reinforcement (16) extending that extends in the transverse direction
~~to~~ above the side-sill arrangement (8) and adjacent to a lower end of the B-pillar (10) in a
direction transverse to the vehicle; and; characterized in that
a plate-like impact element (22), arranged in a direction longitudinal to the
vehicle the longitudinal direction and substantially upright, is the plate-like impact element (22)
having an inside (29) that is connected on an inside (29) to a side outer end (28) of the transverse
reinforcement (16).
2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A vehicle according to Claim 1,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the side outer end (28) of the transverse reinforcement (16) is
arranged in the direction of travel ~~in front of or behind~~ the B-pillar (10).
3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A vehicle according to Claim 1,
~~characterized in that the front~~ wherein the side outer end (28) of the transverse reinforcement
(16) at least partially penetrates the B-pillar (10) ~~or vice versa~~.
4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A vehicle according to Claim 1,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the side outer end (28) of the transverse reinforcement (16)
protrudes in the lateral direction ~~above~~ beyond an outside (32) of the B-pillar (10), so that the
inside (29) of the impact element (22) has a spacing (d) from the outside (32) of B-pillar (10).
5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A vehicle according to Claim 1,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein a lower-edge (30) of the impact element (22) is connected to the
side-sill arrangement (8).

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A vehicle according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a lower edge (30) of the impact element (22) is arranged supported against an outside of the side-sill arrangement (8).

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A vehicle according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the impact element (22) at least partially covers the side outer end (28) of the transverse reinforcement (16) in the B-pillar (10) in the longitudinal direction.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A vehicle according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein an outer surface (27) of the impact element is arranged vertically or sloped outward ~~above from~~ from a vertical position, ~~especially at an angle (α) to the vertical in the range from 2° to 20°.~~

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A vehicle according to Claim 8, ~~characterized in that a slope~~ wherein the angle (α) of the impact element (22) upward increases or decreases, and is especially is adapted to an outer shell contour (18) of the vehicle.

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A vehicle according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the impact element (22) extends to a height of about 60 cm above the ground.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A vehicle according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the impact element has an essentially horizontal upper edge.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A vehicle according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the impact element (22) is bonded and/or shape-fitted with the transverse reinforcement (16).

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A vehicle according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the impact element (22) is designed as a plate made of a solid material, ~~such as (light) metal.~~

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A vehicle according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the impact element (22) is designed as a plate-like composite part.

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A vehicle according to Claim 14, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the impact element (22) has an inner shell (40), an outer shell (42), and a reinforcement structure (44) arranged between the inner shell (40) and the outer shell (42). ~~them.~~

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A vehicle according to Claim 15, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the impact element (22) is designed as a honeycomb sheet, in which the inner and outer shells (40, 42) consist of sheet metal and the reinforcement structure (44) consists of sheet metal angled in a zigzag manner.

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A vehicle according to Claim 15, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the impact element (22) is designed as a honeycomb sheet in which the inner and outer shells (40, 42) are formed from sheet metal and the reinforcement structure is designed in the form of honeycomb elements extending in the transverse direction.

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A vehicle according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the transverse reinforcement (16) extends between two B-pillars (10) and two side-sill arrangements (8) of the vehicle and is provided on both sides of the vehicle with an impact element (22).

19. (NEW) A vehicle according to Claim 1, wherein B-pillar (10) at least partially penetrates the side outer end (28) of the transverse reinforcement (16).

20. (NEW) A vehicle according to Claim 1, wherein an outer surface (27) of the impact element (22) is sloped outward from a vertical position at an angle (α) within a range from 2° to 20°.